

# SPARC GAP

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CLUB MEETING ON THE FIRST FRIDAY  
REPEATER MEETING ON THE THIRD FRIDAY OF EACH MONTH

DECEMBER 1979  
SEASONS GREETINGS



PRESIDENT JOHN MAC DONALD, WD4C0L  
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PHONE 796-5126

EDITOR—PUBLISHER Jack Adams W4NOK  
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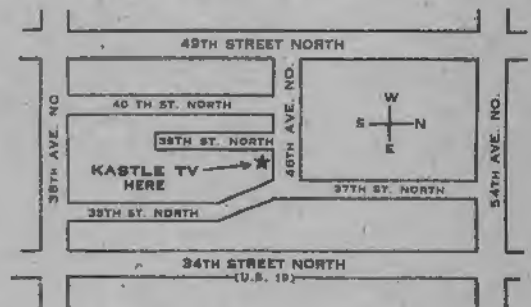
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**N4APZ-WD4COL**

# SPARC GAP

OUR NEXT MEETING WILL BE HELD ON DECEMBER 7, 1979 AT 8:00 P.M. AT RED  
CROSS HEADQUARTERS 818 4th Street North, St. Petersburg, FL

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The meeting of November 2nd was called to order by the Secretary, and immediately called for nominations for a Chairman Protem to preside over the meeting in the absence of the President and Vice President. Rex W4GPL was nominated.

Visitors and members were introduced and welcomed.

Dave K4KE told about the Annual Open House and Horse Show at the Florida Sheriffs Boys Ranch that was held recently. Dave said that several of the area amateurs were there and two stations were set up: one at the Ham Shack, located in the Activities Building at the Ranch, and one at the horse arena. Traffic was handled on the Ranch repeater, 146.34/94 and quite a bit of interest was shown. Friday evening everyone enjoyed the chicken and rice dinner; Saturday the radio stations were set up, traffic was passed over the repeater as well as sent out on cw, and a delicious lunch of bar-b-cue beef was served. Saturday evening the annual "mini hamfest" was held in Lake City where the hams who participated during the day at the Ranch got together for dinner and conversation. K4KE has been very active at the Florida Sheriffs Boys Ranch over the years, and has been responsible for many Ranchers and Staff members to become licensed radio operators.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved. Thanks was given to Wes WD4PUV for the fine job he did in the absence of the secretary.

The Treasurer's Report was read and approved.

John W4ACG gave the station report. He thanked everyone who worked so hard at the Red Cross installing the new Wilson beam, coax, 220 antenna, as well as the new antenna purchased by the Red Cross for their communications. New guy wires still need to be installed on all the antennas in the very near future. John especially recognized the help of Wes WD4PUV, Oliver WD4KGY, and Rex W4GPL, however, there were several more who put in much time and effort during the weekend of work.

Woody K4SCL gave the Repeater Report. He asked if anyone had noticed that the ID had been changed. WR4ALM license expires in November, so the Trustee's call was programed in the Repeater while work was being done on it. A new crystal and two pre-amps were installed. The auto-patch had to be disabled until someone can go to the site and fix it. The Repeater Team has purchased a 220 MHz radio and placed it in the station at Red Cross Headquarters. The radio will be in control of the repeater team to be used where it is needed.

Mike N4AUO gave the Net report. He said that he needed a net control on Wednesday and Saturday evenings, and will need a new Net Manager in three weeks. Mike has done a fine job as net Manager, and the membership is sorry to have him leave this position.

Thanks was given to Hank WA4WKO and Oliver WD4KGY for helping our Editor Jack W4NOK get the SPARK GAP out last month.

# SPARC GAP

Herb W4IRA had tickets to the upcoming Hamfest for sale during and after the meeting.

The Annual Festival of States activities start on December 1st with the Florida Tournament of Bands. Joe WA4FEN said that six radio operators will be needed, and if REACT does not respond to his letter in the very near future, additional hams will be needed for the activity. Joe also requested that the 146.49 frequency be kept clear for this particular activity.

Herb W4IRA reported that all the spaces for swap tables at the upcoming Hamfest have been sold, but that additional room will be made available for last-minute displays. There was a discussion about the handling of communications for the Hamfest. If anyone is interested in volunteering two hours of their time during the two day hamfest, contact Dave WB4TPG.

Jim W4DPH of AGL Electronics was thanked for his continued generous donations to our club.

John WB4LWB requested help in setting up a teletype. He needs experienced help only. Rex W4GPL gave him some suggestions and encouragement.

Our annual Christmas Dinner will be held on December 8th at the Holiday Inn South in St. Petersburg. Reservations must be made early and can be given to Betty WA4TJG or Leo K8PXM. A turkey dinner will be offered for \$5.00 which includes the tax and a tip, or a beef dinner for \$5.75 including tax and tip. Checks can be mailed to the SPARC address and please indicate which dinner you wish to have.

Four new members were voted in. Please welcome: Harry Michelson KA4KKI, Dorothy Michaelson KA4LDB, Bill Weldner KA4GCH and Jim Harden AG9D.

A 40/80 meter antenna trap, donated by AGL Electronics and Jim W4DPH, with a value of \$21.95 was sold to Dave K4KE for \$15.00.

The meeting adjourned for coffee and doughnuts and was called back to order at 9:08 p.m.

The nominating committee placed the following for election:

PRESIDENT:	Ed Harney K4DRN
VICE PRESIDENT:	John MacDonald WD4COL
TREASURER:	Frank Ryll W4VIP
SECRETARY:	Debbie MacDonald N4APZ
DIRECTORS:	Al Friend W4CF
	Herb Tuell W4IRA
	Frank Woltemair K4SQ
	Jack Adams W4NOK

The one nomination from the floor was declined. Elections will be held at the next meeting. All members are encouraged to attend and cast their vote.

Al W4CF, a Director and also the Florida Repeater Association Frequency Coordinator, passed out updated Florida Repeater Directories.

Dave K4KE told everyone how hard Al W4CF has worked as the Frequency Coordinator, and what a good job he is doing. Al deserves our gratitude and complete cooperation, Dave said.

Since there was no further business, Rex adjourned the meeting at 9:25 P.M.

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The following items listed are from the estate of W4PUV/John Joseph Hurd.  
If you are interested, please contact W4UCA/Fred Anderson: 8068 Country Club  
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1 - HW 100 10-80 SSB CW Receiver; 1 - HP 23A AC Power Supply Heath Kit  
complete with microphone and speaker----- \$325.00

1 - VTVM Heath Kit Model No. 1M11----- \$20.00

1 - Tube and Transistor Tester Model #650 Grid emission mutual  
conductance made by B&K MFD Dynaquik----- \$25.00

1 - Microphone Turner 80 Plus----- \$15.00

1 - Microphone astatic D-104----- \$5.00

1 - Microphone Electro-Voice Model 950----- \$8.00

1 - Microphone - Shure Brothers M64H----- \$10.00

1 Bag of Miscellaneous cables, crystals, insulators and 4 AMP  
Thermocoupler meter----- \$5.00

1 Mastra Tube Toter with tubes and 2 boxes of miniature lamp  
bulbs. Nine (9) boxes of little fuses and tubes (approx. 120) \$25.00  
Tube types included are as follows

1X2B (3)	6DQ5	6AV8	6CS6	1U4
6BL7GTA	6AH6	6DS5	1U5	6BG6S
6AN8	6BH6	1V2	6AG7	6BA6
6BN6	1B3	6AX4G7	6AK5	6C4
1R5	6SN7GTA	6AQ5	6CM7	3BZ6
6AV5	6B68	6EA8 (2)	3BU8	6DN7
6BE6 (2)	6EB8	3CD6	6J5	6BN8
6FV6	3A3	6K6GT	6BQ7A	6S4A
4BQ7A	6CD6GA	6CH8	6T8A	5ND8
6SQ7	6CS7	6FH5	5AS4 (2)	6V6G7
6BK5	6EW6	5U8	6W6GT	6BU8
6T8A	5J6	6AL5	6CL6	7AU7
5DQ7	6AS5	6CY5	8AN8	6BQ5
6AV6	6BF5	6V3A	6AB4	6BK5
8CG7	6CX5	6AL5	6BZ6	12BE6
6X8A	6AT7	6CM7	12BH7A	6X4
6AFA	6CY7	12BY7A	6X8A (2)	6ANBA
6BF6	12BZ7	6BK4	6AT8	6BK7B
12BR7	12AT7	12AZ7A	12B4A	12BA7
12BE6	12SN7GT	12DQ6A	12CU6	10DE7
17AX4GT	19AU4GTA	50C5	7360	25CU6
12SN7GTA				

**ARRL BULLETIN NR 104 FROM ARRL HEADQUARTERS.  
NEWINGTON CT OCTOBER 16, 1979 TO ALL RADIO AMATEURS BT**

Because of information recently brought to the attention of the ARRL Executive Committee, it has regretfully been found necessary to declare Fred Hammond, VE3HC, ineligible as a candidate for director, Canadian Division. New ballots are being prepared and mailed to all Full Members of the Canadian Division. The date for receipt of these corrected ballots by Hq. is December 14.

Because of a clerical error in omitting certain biographical information concerning one of the candidates for director in the Great Lakes Division, new biographical sheets and ballots are being mailed to all Full Members of the Great Lakes Division, with the date of receipt of these corrected ballots by Hq. to be December 14.

Elections for vice director in each of the above two divisions shall proceed as at present without change. Complete instructions on the revised balloting schedule are being mailed to Full Members in the Canadian and Great Lakes Divisions AR

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## SPARC GAP

### SPARC REPEATER NEWS

The Team has purchased a first rate 220 MHz station, a Midland 13-513, synthesized for all available frequencies, up to 20 watts, and complete with power supply, coax and antenna. We have placed it at the WAGAC Club Station for use of members. This station should relieve some of the traffic load on the SPARC Repeater during emergencies, and improve our flexibility in general.

We are now using tone access (CTCSS) from 11 P.M. to 6 A.M. This, in effect, eliminates the "Quiet Hours" which we have had in effect for five years. Any member having the proper CTCSS may use the machine at will during these hours. It behooves all members to report any improper practices observed and if such practices are not corrected we will have to adopt other procedures or shut the machine down.

Control operator procedures are as follows: A. At 11 P.M.: 1. Inhibit autopatch. 2. Test to see that it is inhibited. 3. Switch PL ON. 4. Test to see that it is on. 5. Make log entry: "Autopatch inhibited, PL ON, repeater on automatic control, going off duty without relief." B. At 6 A.M.: 1. Turn PL OFF. Test Carrier Access. Note: It may sometimes be necessary also to turn TX On, i.e. carrier access on. 2. Turn Autopatch ON (i.e. uninhibit), test and annotate tape. 3. Make log entry: "Assumed control of K4SCL/RPT. Turned PL Off and Autopatch On. System tests OK." Telephone should be used for control signals where possible, but some things have to be done over the air, like testing autopatch and annotating tape. All control signals may be sent over the air when telephone does not work.

On October 26 the Spectrum machine was in the shop for extensive maintenance work which we had planned for several months. K5IHH, K4NAN and K4SCL spent 8 to 10 hours each and completed most of the projects we had on our list. I am sure everybody has noticed the change in I.D. to "K4SCL/RPT". Our WR4ALM license expires this month. You may also notice slightly better receiver sensitivity, as well as a slight increase in intermod. The two seem to go hand-in-hand. We made repairs to the autopatch board, expecting to have improved autopatch and telephone control performance, but the SCAP board had another failure within 24 hours, so the patch is off the air until we can repair it and telephone control is worse than ever. Too bad this design does not permit patch and control functions to be separated completely.

One of our maintenance projects that did not turn out well was installation of the "stripper" to take the CTCSS tone out of the repeated audio. It stripped OK, but introduced unacceptable noise. I believe we can do better on our next try, but we were running short of time. Also, we were unable to use the new International Crystal in the transmitter for lack of a good silver mica fixed capacitor of the right value. Again, we should do better next time.

With expiration of our WR4ALM license, we need to change our By-Laws to delete reference to same. Also we need more flexibility in determining Repeater dues. We are embarrassed at the moment by having too much money in our treasury, so we plan to propose changes to By-Law at the Annual Meeting to correct these problems.

73 de K4SCL.

## SPARC GAP

Greetings!

Looks like this is my next to last "Prez Sez". My congratulations to the nominating committee (John, W4ACG, chairman; Bill, WB4DWA; Dave, K4KE; and Bob, WB4OIG) on a fine slate of officers for the coming year. Those nominated are:

President- Ed Harney, K4DRN (current veep)  
Vice-president- John MacDonald, WD4COL (current prez)  
Secretary- Debbie MacDonald, N4APZ  
Treasurer- Frank Ryll (incumbent), ~~~~~  
Director- Jack Adams, W4NOK (incumbent)  
Director- Al Friend, W4CF (incumbent)  
Director- Herb Tuell, W4IRA (incumbent)  
Director- Frank Woltemair, K4SQ

Nominations will be accepted from the floor at the December meeting also. The by-laws provide for 3 directors, but also make provisions for appointments at the business meeting of the year (December). At this time, I intend to appoint Jack Adams to the board (Jack is our SPARC GAP editor) for 1980. I also intend to install Rex Cottrell on the Board as past-president as I will be on the Board in the capacity of veep (assuming I am elected - gee!)

Hope to see many of you at the Christmas banquet on Dec. 8. Contact K8PXM, WA4TJG, or W4VIP for details. Turkey: \$5, Roast beef: \$5.75.

SPARC, under the direction of the repeater team, will head up communications at the Tournament of Bands on Sat., Dec. 1. Call Woody, K4SCL, to volunteer!

That's it for now. See you all at the most important Dec. 7 meeting.

161. *John MacDonald*

I would like to thank the following people on behalf of the SPARC club for installing our new tri-band beam: W4GPL, WD4PUV, WA4WHO, WD4KGY, N4NL, WA4CGW, KA4BPO, WA4WKO.

There was a lot of work involved in taking down all the old equipment, putting in a new mast from the rotor up, then a new Red Cross 48 MC Ringo Ranger, and under that, a new Wilson tri-band beam. The SWR is under 1.5 on all bands.

Thank you again. I know your work is appreciated by all the club members. We will get lots of use from it.

SPARC-GAP

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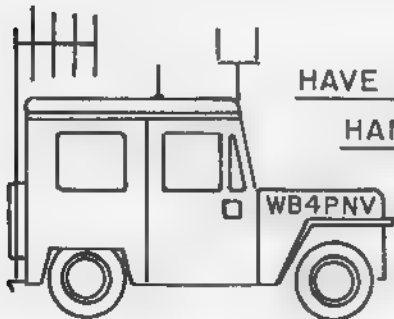
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SPARC-GAP

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CHRIST and forget Him  
you have lost everything.*



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AND  
WB4UFO LYNNE  
SARASOTA, FLORIDA

\*\*\*\*\*



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BOB  
K5IHH  
THE  
"IRON HULA HOOP"

\*\*\*\*\*

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WA4RLV

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SPARC-GAP

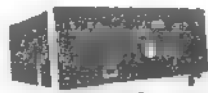


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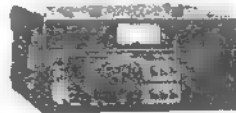
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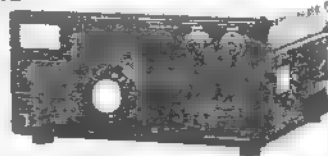
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# SPARC GAP

October 28, 1979

Current list of Operators listed for operation at W 4 G A C, SPARC radio station at St. Pete. Americal Red Cross.

Browning Bob K5TTH	Miner Larry WA4CTM
Bellows Betty WA4TJG	Marston Ken WB4LYH
Bellows Geo. K4ISS	Marada John WB4LWB
	MacDonald Debbie W4APZ
	MacDonald John WD4COL
Cottrell Rex W4GFL	
Cole Frank WA4KCR	Reid Geo WB4ONC
Clark H. WA4KER	Raines Al Jr N4NL
	Ras Geo K4TH
Felps Bryan K4HAM	
Gallespie James K4IYE	Smith John W4ACG
Harney James K4DHN	Smith Bob WB4OIG
Harrison Mark KA4BPO	Smith Paul K4JEN
Hubbard Carl W4MVC	Scott Mike N4AUO
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Henry JO KA4DWG	Summers Don W4OJH
Henry Phil WA4WFW	
	Thigpin Oliver WD4KGY
Ireland Mariane KA4FAX	Turner Willard WA4QGU
	Tuell Herb W4IRA
Hackson Wes WD4FUV	
	Vogensy Butch WA4BOX
Keys Jim K4FCW	Vinson Wm WD4AXC
Lakeman Faith WA4WOU	
	West Elmer WB4KSJ

NOTE - Upon proper request to  
W4ACG Others may be added  
or deleted.

ARRL BULLETIN NR 75 FROM ARRL HEADQUARTERS  
NEWINGTON CT AUGUST 7, 1979 TO ALL RADIO AMATEURS B

The new edition of the ARRL Net Directory is now available. Listing over 700 public service nets by location and frequency, this newly revised booklet is also packed with information on all the basics of traffic handling and net operation. You may obtain a copy by sending a self-addressed nine by twelve inch envelope with forty one cents U.S. postage to ARRL Net Directory, 225 Main Street, Newington, CT 06111 AR

Latest bulletin mailed to OBS was NR 71

ARRL BULLETIN NR 100 FROM ARRL HEADQUARTERS  
NEWINGTON CT SEPTEMBER 27, 1979 TO ALL RADIO AMATEURS B

On September 27, 1979, the Federal Communications Commission turned down point of sale control for Amateur equipment because of the difficulty of enforcement, and because of the questionable legality of such control. On another item, the Commission has formally changed the rules to now require an Amateur to use form 610 to change his mailing address, and licenses submitted for modification will automatically be renewed for five years. The item concerning the use of 8 level ASCII language in Amateur Radio was deleted from the agenda at the last moment, at the request of Commissioner Brown. Details will appear in QST AR

Latest bulletin mailed to OBS was NR 95.

# SPARC GAP

## HISTORY-ST PETERSBURG AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

### 1976 continued

Naomi could not attend. Pres., WA4FNY-Bill announced K4FCW-Jim Keyes was researching obtaining liability insurance for the Club & a special meeting would be held at the March meeting to deal with proposed By-Laws. He appointed WB4ARZ-Kim Cole, Station Manager; K4NE-Lew Sieck, Florida Skip writer; WA4FPS-Bill Childs, Public Relations & K4JBL-Stan Kahn, Hamfest Chairman. The Club voted to join Florida Gulf Coast Council. Disaster Communication Committee appointed were: WA4FYR-Paul; WB4VTY-John & W4EXS-Art.

K4SCL-Woody reported Repeater Station-WR4ALM emergency stand-by frequency is 146.49 MHz simplex. Plans for Annual Hamfest shaping up.

Pres., WA4FNY-Bill suffered back & neck injuries, with dislocation of several vertebrae, as a result of auto accident & was hospitalized for a week, due to partial paralysis on left side.

The Special Meeting for disposition of proposed By-Law changes was held & was passed.

WR4ALM was moved to 1301 - 34th St. No., with antenna 210 feet above ground level, atop the Times Publishing Co. tower & switched Repeater Team meeting to Red Cross rather than Fire Department Headquarters, previous place.

In May, the members were saddened by report that K4KKK-Jim Clark joined the Silent Keys. Jim was a long time member of the Club; assisted at Hamfests, giving the kids lolly pops, etc. & though 92 years young, continued to do most of the antenna work, climbing towers, etc. He will be greatly missed in more ways than one.

K4TH-George agreed to be the Director, representing SPARC at the Florida Gulf Coast Radio Council meetings.

At the October meeting, changes recommended by By-Law Committee were presented. As there was some controversy about the changes, the Executive Committee was called into session October 14th, to study the matter, so that an alternate plan was submitted. Unfortunately there were those in SPARC very much against progress; that is, addition of 2-meter FM & the Repeater Team, so there were some "stormy times" before a satisfactory settlement could be made.

The SPARC Repeater Team is indeed an asset to the Club. It has brought increased membership; more Public Service activities such as; Communications for "Toys for Tots Telethon"; Festival State Parades; Golf Tournaments; "Around the Island" canoe race; Yacht Races; besides their 24-hour monitoring of WR4ALM & rendering assistance in all kind of instances. There is the SPARC Net every night at 6:30 PM on 147.66/06 & SPARC-GAP has grown to 7 pages, with increased revenue from additional advertising. All this not for one year but every year.

Pres., WA4FNY-Bill called special meeting Dec. 3rd, purpose of voting on By-Laws & election of officers. Ballots were put in envelopes, call letters on same & turned over to the Executive Committee to verify & tabulate. The proposed changes to the By-Laws were defeated, so dues & organization remained unchanged.

On Dec. 5th, SPARC Repeater Team, in cooperation with Tampa Bay Optimist Clubs, participated in "Toys for Tots Telethon". WA4FNY-Bill appeared on Channel 10 TV, with representatives of other Clubs, to help tell the public about Amateur Radio involvement. WB4HYH-Leon was coordinator of SPARC effort, with WA4ORX dispatching from their camper-truck parked at the TV studio. W4GFL & WA4FPS assisted at the studio.

December 9th meeting, WA4FNY-Bill advised K5TFR/4-Bob Browning the Executive Committee had made him Honorary Lifetime member of SPARC.

ST. PETERSBURG AMATEUR RADIO CLUB  
P. O. BOX 4026  
ST. PETERSBURG, FLORIDA 33731

CLUB MEETS 8:00 P.M.  
1st Friday of Month  
Red Cross Hdqtrs  
818 4th Street North

REPEATER TEAM MEETS 7:30 P.M.  
3rd Friday of Month  
Red Cross Hdqtrs  
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Calendar Year dues

First Time, (New Member)-----\$5.00  
RENEWAL-----\$4.00  
SPOUSE-----\$1.00  
ONE YEAR REPEATER DONATION  
(copy of license required)-----\$10.00  
SPOUSE REPEATER DONATION-----\$ 1.00

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CITY \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_  
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Yes or No \_\_\_\_\_

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St. Petersburg Amateur Radio Club  
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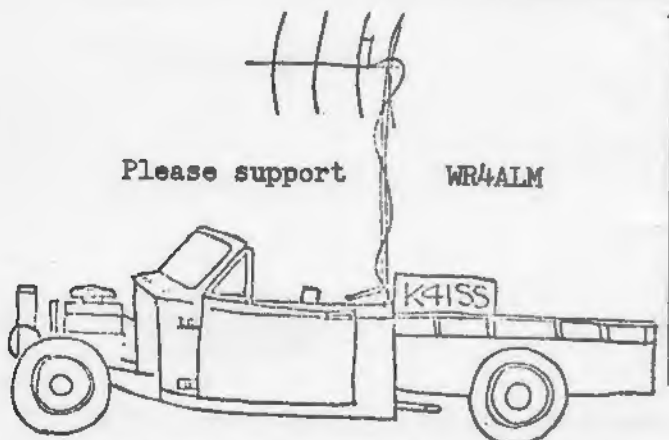
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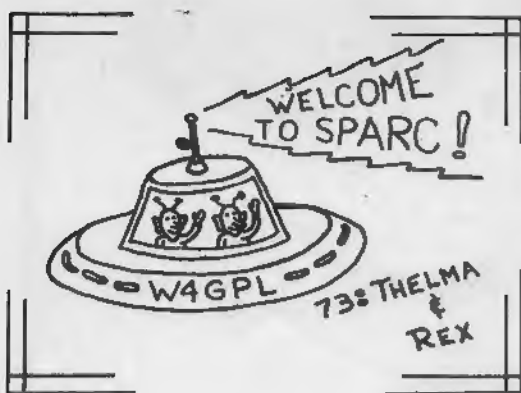
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